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Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Publishes History of Talking Books

Young reader with AD-3 machine (c. 1960)

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has published a new monograph, *Talking Books: Pioneering and Beyond.* The book traces the development of recorded books and playback equipment for use by blind and physically handicapped readers. It tells how NLS/BPH agencies such as the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB), and commercial producers cooperated in utilizing available technology and developing special features to meet the needs of handicapped readers.

For example, the entrance of physically handicapped readers into the program in 1966 led to the invention of extension levers for manipulating controls and a remote control device activated by a breath switch. The current influx of older readers, both visually impaired and lacking in manual dexterity, has brought about the

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Easy Machine, which plays all four tracks of a tape, at one-half speed, automatically. The book also details the work of the NLS/BPH in developing quality standards for recordings and playback equipment. Throughout, the interactions among NLS/BPH, American Foundation for the Blind, and other nonprofit agencies, commercial producers, the Congress, and the public are detailed.

The monograph is the product of research over several years by Marilyn Majeska, now working in the Library's Federal Research Division, and NLS/BPH staff, who searched files in the Library, interviewed people from NLS/BPH and other agencies and companies who had worked on talking books in the past, and examined and identified machines and equipment in warehouses.

The NLS/BPH monograph is an attempt to assemble a complete account, and its purpose is to gather in one place and preserve available information about talking-book development.

The 100-page book includes photographs of some of the machines and accessories and an appendix listing by year machines NLS/BPH produced or bought. The monograph is intended as a library reference and is currently available in regular print on request to the Reference Section, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20542. It will soon be produced in braille and recorded formats.

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued weekly by the Information Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies, and allied organizations in the United States.

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Bruce Tapper, Editor

Microfiche Publications Focus on Japan In the Second World War

The Library of Congress has received a copy of *The Occupation of Japan: U.S. planning documents, 1942–1945* edited by Makoto Iokibe (Bethesda, Md.: Congressional Information Service, Inc.; Tokyo, Japan: Maruzen Publishing Co., c1987. 127 p.). This is a guide to a microfiche collection (490 silver halide sheets) of approximately 960 selected U.S. Government documents and some private papers created during the 1942–1945 period for use in planning the occupation of Japan after the Second World War, most of which have never before been published. A subject/name index and a document/meeting number index are provided.

These documents have been selected by Professor Makoto Iokibe of Kobe University, Kobe, Japan, from documents in the National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.; the Harry S. Truman Library, Independence, Mo.; the archives at the MacArthur Memorial, Norfolk, Va.; and from private papers. The collection consists of official military, intelligence, diplomatic, and foreign policy publications; minutes of relevant committee meetings, such as those of the Postwar Program Committee; interviews; private diaries; and correspondence of key figures in policy making.

In the fall of 1988, the Congressional Information Service, Inc., plans to publish some 8,700 documents of the Allied Translator and Interpreter Section reports (1942–1945) on 2,400 sheets of silver halide microfiche. This collection, entitled *Wartime translations of seized Japanese documents: Allied Translator and Interpreter Section reports, 1942–1945*, consists of documents on military and intelligence activities of Japan during the Second World War, including military technical manuals, propaganda messages, maps, personal diaries of Japanese soldiers, reports of interrogations of Japanese prisoners, and other items. A two-volume index will accompany the collection.

–Yoshiko Yoshimura

FLICC Publishes Symposium Summary

The impact of Federal information policies on U.S. competitiveness in industrial and information markets at home and abroad is discussed in a recently published summary of the fifth annual forum of the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC). The forum was conducted at the Library of Congress in March.

The 33-page summary of proceedings, titled *Federal Information Policies: The Impact on Competitiveness*, is free and may be ordered by writing to FLICC, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540. The summary was prepared by Douglas C. Brooks, freelance writer and columnist for *Government Computer News*, and published by the Library of Congress. (A video version of the forum is also available. See LC *Information Bulletin*, July 11, p. 291.)

CONSER Editing Guide Update 3 Is Issued

In the two years since its publication, the *CONSER Editing Guide*, or CEG, has been acclaimed as an

invaluable tool for all serials catalogers, as well as the most complete source of information on the CONSER (Cooperative Online Serials) Program, according to Kimberly Dobbs, chief of the Serial Record Division, Library of Congress. Reviewers who have struggled to use the older MARC *Serials Editing Guide*, Second CONSER Edition for cataloging AACR 2 records should find the CEG a most welcome arrival. The latest addition to the CEG is Update 3, which is dated December 1987, and priced at $20.

Update 3 contains a new chapter, "A3 The CONSER Record." The chapter provides important new definitions of the CONSER record and the CONSER database and explains the creation, input, and distribution of CONSER records. Update 3 also provides the latest information on who's who in CONSER, membership requirements, and the availability of CONSER products.

For the online serial cataloger, there are new instructions added for uniform titles, headings, linking entry fields, and series. Appendix J, "Use of Subject Heading Subdivisions Appropriate to Serials," has been expanded to include all subdivisions commonly used for serials. Catalogers who work with some of the lesser known types of serials will be particularly interested in Appendices L–N, which provide listings of the data elements routinely used in various types of serial records.

Appendix L has been renamed "Special Types of Cataloging" and includes Library of Congress minimal-level cataloging records, newspapers (as cataloged in the United States Newspaper Program), NSDP prepublication records, NST records, and regular-print reprints. Appendix M covers the cataloging of original and reproduction microforms. Appendix N provides the interim method of cataloging "Special Physical Formats" (such as computer files, sound recordings, and video recordings) prior to USMARC format integration.

The complete CEG consists of the base text and binder, priced at $30, Updates 1 (December 1986, $15), 2 (July 1987, $10), and 3 (December 1987, $20). The CEG is available from the Library of Congress, Customer Services Section, Cataloging Distribution Service, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20541. For further information, call (202) 287-6100.

AMERICAN TREASURY

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This week's question, drawn from the CBS News "American Treasury" series, broadcast each weekday at 3:57 p.m. (DST) on the CBS Television Network, is:

Confederate Army General Robert E. Lee was offered a different job at one time by the President of the United States. What was it?

The answer to last week's question is:

In 16th-century England, spiced, toasted bread was added to drinks to improve the flavor. The person to whom the drink was dedicated was called the "toast," and eventually the drink itself.

Austrians Honor Edith Palmer

Ambassador Hoess and Ms. Palmer

Edith Palmer, senior legal specialist, European Law Division of the Library of Congress, was awarded the Grand Decoration of Honor for Services to the Republic of Austria.

The decoration was presented to Dr. Palmer on May 18 by Dr. Friedrich Hoess, Ambassador of Austria to the United States, in a ceremony at the Austrian Embassy in Washington, D.C., which was also attended by several of her colleagues and relatives.

Dr. Palmer was honored for her accomplishments in maintaining and developing the Austrian legal collection of the Library of Congress and in providing information on Austrian law. She has been the acquisitions officer for Austrian legal materials since her appointment to the European Law Division in 1976; and she has authored several Law Library Publications on Austrian law including *The Austrian Codification of Conflicts Law* (1978), *The Austrian Banking System Under the 1979 Statute* (1980), and *The Austrian Law on Extradition and Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters* (1983).

STAFF NEWS

John L. Moore Becomes Senior Specialist and Division Chief in CRS

John L. Moore has been selected as senior specialist in environmental policy and chief of the Environment and Natural Resources Policy Division (ENR), Congressional Research Service (CRS), effective June 20.

Mr. Moore received his bachelor's degree with honors in economics from Kalamazoo College and his Ph.D. in natural resources economics from the University of Michigan, where he was the recipient of a National Defense Education Act Fellowship.

Mr. Moore joined the staff of the Congressional Research Service in February 1985 as a specialist in environmental policy and assistant chief of the Environment and Natural Resources Policy Division. As a member of the CRS senior management group, he has been active on task forces dealing with service-wide issues, particularly microcomputer management. In May 1987, he was temporarily promoted to the position of chief, ENR, and has focused during the last year on helping build division capabilities in the energy and environment areas.

Prior to joining CRS, he managed research in the natural resources and energy areas at Battelle Institute; at a Battelle-Ohio State public policy center; and at Applied Management Sciences in Washington, D.C.

His professional activities include publications and presentations on economic issues in the natural resources area, journal review responsibilities, and membership in several professional associations. He is also active in local civic group and school committee work.

Poetry Office Seeks Ushers

For its 1988–89 season of literary events at the Library, the Poetry Office needs volunteers from the Library staff to usher at evening programs beginning in October.

Each volunteer will be guaranteed a pair of seats (one for a guest) at the program at which he or she ushers and an invitation for two to attend the reception following that program.

At the conclusion of the literary season in May 1989, a private get-together with this year's Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry, Howard Nemerov, will be arranged for all ushers who were able to participate in the series. Staff members interested in this opportunity should phone the Poetry Office, ext. 75394/5, to register.

Library Phone Numbers To Change in October

The Library of Congress phone system will switch over to another exchange, with the first three digits of Library numbers changing to 707– from 287–. The area code (202) will remain the same, as will numbers and dialing procedures used internally within the Library, with the prefix remaining the number "7."

The reason for this advance notice is to enable offices to phase out any letterhead stock or brochures on which the current Library telephone number appears, and order new supplies as necessary to be ready for the October 21 change-over.

Odessa W. Dorsey Retires

Odessa W. Dorsey, catalog maintenance assistant in the National Union Catalog (NUC) Control Section of the Catalog Management and Publication Division (CM&P), retired from the Library on June 30, after more than 26 years of Federal service and 21 years with CM&P.

A luncheon was held in her honor at Hogate's Restaurant on June 23. Some 60 current and former CM&P staff were present along with family members. Gloria H. Hsia, chief of the division; Rebecca S. Guenther, head of the NUC Control Section; Neva A. Littlejohn, supervisor of the Catalog Maintenance Unit; and Nathaniel R. Rushing, assistant supervisor of the unit, paid tribute to Mrs. Dorsey's hard work and dedication.

In addition, the division sponsored a cake and punch reception on June 30 in the CM&P conference room. The reception was attended by nearly 100 CM&P staff and other Library employees.

A native of Washington, D.C., Mrs. Dorsey began her Federal service as a messenger with the Pentagon in 1947. From 1948 to 1965 she worked intermittently as a file and distribution clerk with the U.S. Maritime Commission, the Navy Department, and the Post Office.

She came to the Library in 1967 as a production assistant-arranger in the then Catalog Maintenance and Catalog Publication Division's Catalog Publication Section. She was promoted to production assistant-filer in 1969 and to filer later that same year. Mrs. Dorsey was reassigned to the Catalog Publication Division's Books: Subjects Unit in 1971. In 1983, she was reassigned as a catalog maintenance assistant in the Catalog Maintenance Unit. She spent three months in 1983 on detail with the division's Special Catalog Section.

Mrs. Dorsey received three special achievement awards (1983, 1986, 1987) and an outstanding performance rating (1986) for her ability to work under pressure when the division was shorthanded and her

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efforts in training catalog maintenance assistants.

Mrs. Dorsey says she will miss her colleagues and friends at the Library but that she looks forward to opportunities to travel and spend time with family.

Three Central Services Staffers Are Honored

Three staff members of the Central Services Division, James Kepler, James McLeod, and John Richardson received 25-year Federal Service Award pins in an informal ceremony in the office of Glenn A. Zimmerman, former Associate Librarian for Management. Mr. Zimmerman presented the pins. Also attending were Janet Smith, Bobby Dove, Charles Brooks, Ralph Polk, Don Robinson, and Freddie Harrison.

James Kepler, head, Records Management and Graphics Section, came to the Library as the result of a Library recruitment effort in Pennsylvania. Heeding the Library's appeals, he left Oxford, Pa., and began Federal service with the Library in October 1959 as a cataloging assistant. He transferred to a position as records and correspondence clerk. He then left the Library for Florida College, transferring a year later to Oklahoma Baptist University. Before he graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics, he was temporarily employed again at the Library, with the Aerospace and Technical Division in the springs of 1963 and 1964. Upon graduation in 1965, he was rehired as a reference assistant.

He then served a tour of duty in Germany with the U.S. Army Security Agency and returned to a

(Cont. on p. 322)

Maryland Commission Donates Materials To Women's Resource Center

Julius Dow, WPO staff assistant (left); Ms. Kluge; Mr. Zimmerman; and Ms. Grant.

The Women's Program Office and its Advisory Committee held a brief program on May 11 to express its thanks to the Maryland Commission for Women for donating resources to the Women's Program Resource Center. The commission recently contributed a host of pamphlets to the center as a generous response to the committee's request for information of interest to women employees.

Glen A. Zimmerman, Associate Librarian for Human Resources, opened the program by expressing his thanks to the commission. Rhoda Kluge, Women's Program manager, introduced Sally Grant, chair of the Maryland Commission for Women and the guest speaker for the program.

Ms. Grant presented a brief history of the commission and an overview of its current activities. She spoke about the commission which has evolved from an advisor to the Governor of Maryland to an independent agency under the Secretary of the Department of Employment and Social Services. For 20 years, the commission has been dedicated to "identifying problems, defining issues, and recommending policies and procedures" to improve the quality of life for women in Maryland, she said. The commission's areas for advocacy include: credit, insurance, housing discrimination, domestic violence, child support, continuing education, sex equity in education, employment discrimination, women offenders, and women in elective and appointive office.

Rhoda Kluge thanked all of the supporters and participants in the program, and expressed additional thanks to Mary Ann Joyce of AFSCME Local 2910 for donating the *Women's Yellow Pages*.

The Women's Program Resource Center is located in Room LM 611 of the Madison Building and is open for browsing Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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Three *(Cont. from p. 321)*
position in the Motion Picture Section of the Prints and Photographs Division as a library technician. He was promoted to an accounting technician position in the Internal Audit Office of the Office of The Librarian. He was later reassigned to the auditor career ladder, which he topped in October of 1973. It was not until February of 1977 that he returned to the field of records management as the assistant head of the section he currently heads. The Library presented him a Quality Increase in 1983 although the challenge of developing the Library's signage administration and the formal commendations from the Members of Congress as well as from Library staff members are perhaps better appreciated.

James McLeod, a bus driver in the Motor Vehicle Unit, Administrative Services Section, is a native of Wagan, N.C. Mr. McLeod began his Federal service at the Library with a temporary appointment in the former Buildings and Grounds Division in May of 1962. In 1969 he was reassigned to his current position. His interpersonal skills have brought him frequent praise from the staff, and official recognition in the form of a Special Achievement and cash award in September 1981 and again in April 1986.

John Richardson, a pressman in the Printing Unit, Printing and Processing Section, began his Federal service with the Air Force after leaving his native Franklin County, N.C., for an assignment in Greenland. He came to the Library as a library assistant with the former Card Division in February 1967 and rose to a supervisory position in June 1971. Mechanization and automation of the Library's card production system afforded him the opportunity to change careers. He ventured into the printing field as an offset pressman in December 1971, and showing the same zeal that had served him before, rose to the position of offset pressman and maintenance assistant until the dissolution of the photo composition card production system led to his reassignment to the Printing Unit, in which he has risen to become the operator of the finest press in the unit.

Michael Neal Earns Federal Service Award

Michael A. Neal, assistant supervisor, Delivery Unit, Loan Division, was presented a 20-year Federal Service Award pin on May 19 by Winston Tabb, chief of the Loan Division. Also in attendance were Tom Smith and Elgin Reid, head and assistant head, respectively, of the Circulation Section, and Ciscero Jones, Mr. Neal's immediate supervisor. Mr. Neal was joined by his many friends in the Loan Division, where he has worked all of the 20 years.

Before graduating from Dunbar High School in 1967, Mr. Neal held several summer jobs at various government agencies, including the Internal Revenue Service and the Government Printing Office. He joined the Library of Congress Loan Division as a messenger in 1968, became a library aide, and in 1969 was promoted to his current position. In 1980 he was given a Meritorious Service Award.

Lola Pickering Serves The Library 20 Years

Lola Pickering, assistant head of Preliminary Cataloging Section, Descriptive Cataloging Division, received a 20-year Federal Service Award on June 17. The award was presented by William Huntley, assistant chief of the division.

Mrs. Pickering was awarded a B.S. degree from the University of Istanbul in 1965. She joined the staff of the Descriptive Cataloging Division in 1968; thus, all of her Federal service has been with the Library. Her first position was as a preliminary cataloger in the Preliminary Cataloging Section. She advanced through progressive levels of responsibility within that section and in December 1973 was promoted to supervisor of searching. In March 1975 she was promoted to her present position.

Staff Activities

Michael W. Albin, chief of the Order Division, participated in a conference on the theme, "The Role of the Book in the Civilizations of the Near East," sponsored by the Royal Irish Academy, in Dublin, June 29–July 1. His paper, "Early Arabic Printing: A Catalog of Attitudes," examined the contributions of four key personalities in the spread of print technology in the Middle East during the 18th and 19th centuries. Mr. Albin is also the author of the "Official Culture in Egypt and the Role of the Book," published in the latest number of the *Journal* of the American Research Center in Egypt. He was also recently elected to serve on the nominating committee of the Middle East Studies Association of North America.

Thomas J. Blumer, senior editor in the European Law Division of the Law Library, delivered four lectures at the Catawba Civic Center, Catawba Indian Reservation, York

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County, S.C., on June 7 and 8. The talks were sponsored by the Catawba Tribal Council and the Catawba Arts and Crafts Association. Entitled "Two Centuries of Catawba Pottery," the series examined the work of representative potters from the 19th and 20th centuries.

Josephine Jacobsen, former Library of Congress poetry consultant, read from her recent works at the Kelmscott Bookshop in Baltimore, Md., on April 17. Her reading was introduced by **Michael W. Albin,** chief of the Library's Order Division. Mrs. Jacobsen read from her recent collection of poems, *The Sisters.* She was joined on the program by two other Baltimore poets, Pamela di Pesa and Irene Marsh.

Allen Thrasher, senior reference librarian, Southern Asia Section, Asian Division, spoke in Calcutta, India, to the staff of the National Library and the Indian National Bibliography under the auspices of the U.S. Information Agency. The talk, on March 25, covered the topics of the Indological collections at the Library of Congress and the possibilities for worldwide sharing of information on manuscripts of Indian origin.

William J. Welsh, The Deputy Librarian of Congress, delivered two speeches at the 107th annual conference of the American Library Association in New Orleans. On July 9, as keynote speaker for the Junior Member Round Table and ALA Membership Committee's All Conference Orientation Program, Mr. Welsh spoke on "The Leader in You." **Nancy Davenport,** associate director for special programs, Congressional Research Service, was also a participant in this program, speaking on the subject of "Steps to Involvement in ALA."

Also in the role of keynote speaker, Mr. Welsh spoke on "Active Agents in the Democratic Process" at the Library Administration and Management Association's annual President's Program and Dinner on July 10.

On July 11 Mr. Welsh was presented with honorary membership in the alumni society of the University of Michigan School of Information and Library Studies.

John I. Meehan Dies

John I. Meehan, a retired employee of the Library and a resident of the Washington, D.C., area for 60 years, died on May 18 at the age of 85.

Mr. Meehan was born in Lambertville, N.J., in 1902 and moved to Washington, D.C., in 1927. After brief employment at the Washington Navy Yard he transferred to the Library of Congress in 1930.

At the Library he was first employed in the Card Division and in 1942 was promoted to the position of Chief of the Tabulating Office. In 1954 Mr. Meehan was promoted to the position of Special Assistant for Tabulating Planning, the position he held upon his retirement from the Library in 1959, after nearly 31 years of Federal service. From 1959 until 1969 he served as Manager of Data Processing at the Washington, D.C., printing firm of Judd & Detweiler, Inc.

Mr. Meehan was very active in the founding and continuing activities of Holy Family Catholic Church in Hillcrest Heights, Md. He devoted many hours to Holy Family parish's welfare and was a faithful communicant and supporter of the church for more than 35 years. He was buried from Holy Family Church on May 21 and was interred at Resurrection Cemetery nearby.

He is survivied by his wife of 66 years, Emma M. Meehan; his daughters Barbara M. Sullivan, Joan A. Noble, and Karen A. Randall; his sister, Mary V. Hartman of Lambertville, N.J., and by 16 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Birth Announcement

Ameen Yousufzai and her husband, Dilara Yousufzai, are the parents of a son, Asif Abbas, born on July 6 at Washington Adventist Hospital. Mrs. Yousufzai is a senior cataloging editor in the Catalog Management and Publication Division.

Staff Carpool Locator

Rider seeking to join carpool from Cabin John to the Library, arriving any time between 8 and 9 a.m. Phone Nahid, ext. 75422.

Established carpool seeks additional fifth driver from Ashburton/Davis Library, Bethesda, Md., area. Parking at Madison Building. Flexitime schedule, arriving at the Library about 7:30 a.m. Call Parkash Samuel, ext. 75784, or Hoa Nguyen, ext. 76486.

Established carpool from Chevy Chase-Silver Spring seeks rider/driver. Arrives at the Library approximately 7:30 a.m. Start in North Chevy Chase (Jones Bridge and Jones Mill Rds.) with stops in Chevy Chase-Silver Spring (E.-W. Highway near Meadowbrook or Grubb) and the District line (13th St. near Silver Spring Metro). Route is either Blair Rd. or 16th St.-Missouri to North Capitol. Call J. Clarke, ext. 76907.

Meetings and Events Around the Library

Thursday, August 18

☐ "Archibald MacLeish and his Reorganization of the Library of Congress," John Y. Cole, executive director, Center for the Book. LCPA. Room LM 642, 12:10 p.m.

☐ Music from Vietnam, Nguyen Dinh Nghia, flutist and master of the bamboo xylophone; together with his family. American Folklife Center Outdoor Concert Series. Neptune Plaza, 12 noon.

Thursday, August 25

☐ "Credit Counseling," explaining the services of non-profit consumer credit counseling agencies, National Foundation for Consumer Credit speaker. Mumford Room, 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, September 1

☐ "T. G. Masaryk and America," display opens commemorating the 70th anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia and the American connection with its first president. European Reading Room.

Events are open to the public unless otherwise noted.

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